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Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Kazuyoshi Oshima and Katsuya Imai
APPLN. NO: 09/997,703 CONFIRMATION NO.: 4302
FILED: 30 November 2001 ART UNIT: 3626
TITLE: HINGE ASSEMBLY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Here is a copy of a Japanese reference that may be relevant to the examination of this application. An English language abstract of the reference is enclosed. The reference is listed on the attached Form PTO-SB/08A.

Other commonly assigned applications relating to the same general field of technology are as follows:

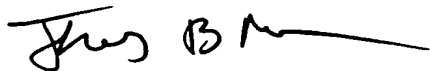
- Application No. 09/625,535 entitled "Hinge Assembly With Limited Play"
- Application No. 09/630,893 entitled "Hinge Assembly"
- Application No. 09/717,367 entitled "Hinge Device"
- Application No. 09/740,608 entitled "Hinge Assembly"
- Application No. 09/979,896 entitled "Hinge Assembly"
- Application No. 09/980,533⁵ entitled "Hinge Assembly"

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the Background portion of the application for a discussion of the state of the art in which the invention was made.

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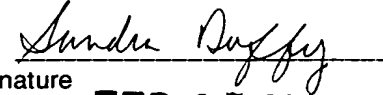
For any questions on this art or the application, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas B. Ryan, Reg. No. 31,659
Eugene Stephens & Associates
56 Windsor Street
Rochester, New York 14605
Phone: (585) 232-7700
Dated: FEB 27 2002

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on: 27 Feb. 2002

Signature: 
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